

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY OSLO

UNCLAS STATE 061904

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM USUN MAR 31

QUOTE

UNCLAS USUN 1145

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PBOR, UN

SUBJ: LOS: SUBCOMMITTEE I, MARCH 30

1. SUBCOMMITTEE I WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN (PINTO) REPORTED TO FULL SUBCOMMITTEE ON PROGRESS OF WG ON SEABED REGIME PRINCIPLES AND ANNOUNCED THAT SECOND READING HAD BEEN CONCLUDED ON 22 ARTICLES. CHILE REPEATED EARLIER REQUEST THAT SUBCOMMITTEE HOLD FURTHER MEETINGS FOR POLITICAL DEBATE ON REGIME PRINCIPLES.

2. BRAZIL COMMENTED THAT WORKING GROUP REPORT IS OPEN TO NEW IDEAS AND COULD BE MODIFIED BY FULL SUBCOMMITTEE. US REP MADE STRONG INTERVENTION ON THIS ISSUE SAYING THAT IF SUBCOMMITTEE WILL LATER CHANGE AGREED TEXTS OF WORKING GROUP (IE THOSE FROM WHICH ALL BRACKETS HAD BEEN REMOVED) THIS WOULD FORECLOSE GENUINE NEGOTIATION THIS SUMMER. US REP POINTED OUT THAT DELEGATIONS WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO MAKE CONCESSIONS IN WORKING GROUP IF RESULTANT AGREED TEXTS COULD BE REOPENED AND AMENDED BY ANOTHER GROUP. PERU, SUPPORTED BY KENYA, AND GUYANA ARGUED THAT SUBCOMMITTEE HAS THE

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RIGHT TO EXAMINE WORK OF WORKING GROUP AND THAT ALL SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS HAVE RIGHT TO EXAMINE TEXT.

3. NEPAL, WITH SUPPORT FROM AFGHANISTAN, COMPLAINED ABOUT TREATMENT OF ARTICLE ON LANDLOCKED STATES ACCESS TO AREA EXPRESSING STRONG DISAPPOINTMENT THAT LANDLOCKED STATES WERE NOT SUPPORTED. INDIA APPEARED TO EXPRESS SYMPATHY WITH LANDLOCKED POSITION, SAYING HE WAS DEEPLY PAINED WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN WORKING GROUP ON THIS ISSUE. HOWEVER, HE STRESSED THAT INDIAN GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT LAND-LOCKED STATES SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO AND FROM AREA ON A PAR WITH TRANSIT STATES AND SHOULD BENEFIT FROM PROCESS OF EXPLORATION OF THE AREA, ON A PREFERENTIAL BASIS.

4. NORWAY REP MADE SUBSTANTIVE STATEMENT URGING THAT RULES FOR REGIME NOT BE WORKED OUT IN EXCESSIVE DETAIL BUT SHOULD BE LEFT TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION TO DEVELOP. SOME CONCEPTS, HE SAID, WOULD HAVE TO BE SPELLED OUT SUCH AS NON- INTERFERENCE WITH OTHER USES OF THE AREA. HE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR US PROPOSAL ON PROVISIONAL REGIME. NORWEGIAN REP STATED THAT INTERNATIONAL MACHINERY SHOULD HAVE BROAD POWERS INCLUDING RIGHT TO EXPLOIT AREA DIRECTLY OR THROUGH JOINT VENTURES. HE ALSO ARGUED THAT SPECIAL POSITION OF TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED COUNTRIES ON COUNCIL WOULD HAVE TO BE RECOGNIZED.

SCHAUFELE

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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